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JOURNAL ARTICLE - CREEKSIDE COMMENTARY - CELL LINER COMPLETE - SEDIMENT REMOVAL

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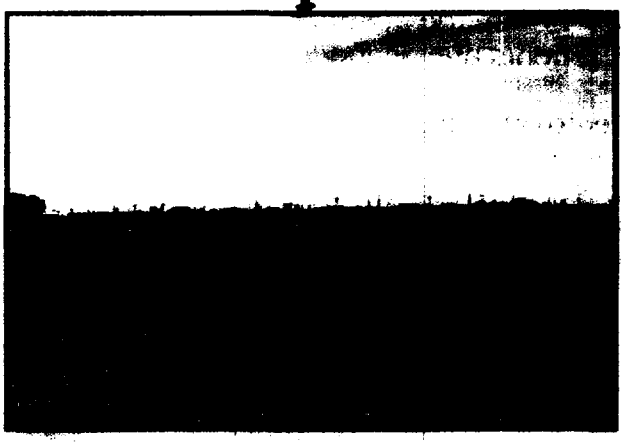
Creekside Commentary

Cell Liner Complete

Cell Construction: Installation of the multi-layered containment cell lining system is complete. On September 24, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Illinois EPA granted approval of the cell installation as consistent with the approved design. Sediments began to be placed in the cell on September 26.



View of inside the containment cell. Lining system is now complete. Black geotextile fabric is on sides of cell with protective sand layer in bottom. Sediment will be placed on top of the sand.

The exterior slopes of the cell have been powerseeded to prevent erosion during the filling stage. Yet to come is a layer of large rock called riprap which is used to permanently protect the slopes of the cell.

Screening Sediment: Sediment from the temporary holding area that will form the initial layer in the cell is being screened to remove any sharp rocks, branches or foreign matter. All sharp objects must be removed from the sediments to be placed nearest the interior cell liner to protect the integrity of the liner system.

Trackhoes turning sediments from the temporary holding area to aid in drying. The blue tanks in the background are part of the temporary storm water collection and filtering system.

Sediment Removal: Approximately 50 percent of the sediments have been removed from the creek. Workers have completed sediment removal from Jerome Lane

[redacted] a newsletter for residents of the [redacted] publishes this newsletter on a re[redacted] Creek remediation project. If [redacted] information about the project for y[redacted] you have questions, concern[redacted] Don Ridenhower at the So[redacted] er: (618) 910-2332.

Sediment Removal

Above: "Before" photo of creek with piles of debris and refuse.
At right: "After" photo of creek. Sediments and debris have now been removed from this section of the creek (view from Edgar Street looking north).

south. Sediment removal work has now begun in the creek between Queeny Avenue and Judith Lane, and from Jerome Lane north towards Kinder Street.

The sediment in the lower portion of the creek was removed first for several reasons. There is a smaller amount of sediment in the lower portion of the creek. It is more difficult to remove and requires the longest amount of travel time in the trucks. Because the containment cell was not ready to receive sediments, it was determined this sediment could be removed and placed in the temporary holding area to dry before being placed in the cell. This allowed the project to stay on target for completion of sediment removal by year's end. All water in the creek is bypassing these cleaned areas, thus avoiding any possibility of recontamination before the upstream segments are cleaned.

Removal of the debris and refuse piles in the creek is being scheduled as rainy day work when it is too wet for workers to enter the creek. The debris can be removed from the creek using equipment stationed on the banks or at the temporary access areas.

Storm Water Management: A temporary storm water collection and treatment system has been built to manage all storm water which comes into contact with the sediments while they are being placed in the cell. The water will be clarified, filtered and treated with activated carbon before being released into the bypass piping, discharging downstream.

Judith Lane: The county laid an oil and chip road surface on Judith Lane and Falling Springs Road, completely unrelated to the cell construction project. This new road surface has created gravel dust. To minimize the dust from truck traffic going into and out of the Judith Lane construction site, workers periodically water down Judith Lane from the construction site to Falling Springs.

Construction Schedule: Construction work and sediment removal work is currently operating six days a week on a 12 hours a day schedule. Placement of sediment into the cell is estimated to continue into January.

After all sediments have been placed, installation of the cell cover system will begin. Total project completion is estimated for second quarter of 2002.